

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Prejudices

By Walter E. Myer

ARE you a Republican or a Democrat? Or haven't you made up your mind? If you have already decided which party you favor, when did you make the decision? Many people form a liking for one or the other of the parties when they are quite young. They hear their parents or others whom they respect talking politics. They hear one party favored and the other condemned, and they accept the views of their parents or friends.

There is nothing wrong about their doing this. A child knows very little about politics, and it is natural that he should accept the views of others. But when one gets older he should decide things for himself. He should not go ahead favoring the Democrats or the Republicans just because he happened to like them when he was a child.

When a person gets away from childhood, he gives up many of the things which he liked when he was an infant. He quits playing with dolls and blocks and such toys. He has other interests.

Many men and women, however, cling to the ideas about politics which they had when they were playing with toys. They get to liking the very name "Republican" or "Democrat" so well that they always want their party to win. Even when a party changes, as parties often do, these people still cling to the party to which they became attached when they were children.

If a person is wise, he will not do that. He will study the problems before the country. He will make up his mind how these problems ought to be solved. Then he will read what the party platforms say about these problems. He will listen to what the candidates say. He will then make up his mind which party believes as he does.

Beware of people who think that all the arguments are on one side. Things are not as simple as that. Pay more attention to people who talk reasonably and calmly and who do not seem to be unduly prejudiced.

All of us will finally decide upon candidates to support, but we should not let blind prejudice determine our choice. And we should not support a party simply because we got into the habit of liking that party back in our childhood days.

The entire nation will benefit as more and more people refuse to give blind support to any one political party, year after year. In the hope of winning the backing of these vigilant, independent citizens, the parties will then have to be on their toes at all times. They will find it necessary to be increasingly careful in dealing with national problems and in putting forward candidates.

On the other hand, when a political party is permitted to feel that its plans and actions are not being carefully judged by any large number of independent citizens, it tends to be less careful in what it does. While it still must be on guard not to offend voters, it does not have to strive so hard to please them.



BOIL, cauldron, boil!

SEIBEL IN RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

Political Differences

Major Parties Agree on a Few Major Policies, but They Take Opposite Stands on Many Important Issues

A REPORTER for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* recently asked both Republican and Democratic leaders this question: "What is the difference between a Democrat and a Republican?"

Congressman Hugh D. Scott, Jr., chairman of the Republican National Committee, answered as follows:

"The main difference is that the Republican Party is devoted to enlarging the area of individual opportunity in the belief that the Government should be, aside from issues of constitutionality, essentially a referee to assure fair dealing.

"The Democratic Party, on the other hand, is devoted to spending orgies and attempts to buy the loyalty of the voter at the expense of his liberty."

The chairman of the Democratic National Committee, J. Howard McGrath, replied to the question in these words:

"The Republican Party believes in raising the standards of those on the top of our economic heap, in the hope that some of the benefits given to the top layer will seep down and help those below.

"The Democratic Party believes in raising the standards of all our people, with special help to those who need it most, so that we can all progress without the drag of second-class citizens."

Do these statements give a fair pic-

ture of the difference between the two parties? Or are they just "campaign talk"?

There are several different ways of finding answers to these questions. We may read the official platforms of the two parties. (See page seven for a summary of the Democratic platform. A condensed version of the Republican platform appeared in the issue of July 5.) We may also read or listen to the speeches of leading candidates during the campaign. A third method is to review the voting record of the Republican and Democratic members of Congress.

An analysis based on these methods shows that the two parties agree upon a few major policies and disagree on many others. It also reveals that there are differences within each party. On certain issues, some Democrats and some Republicans desert their party ranks.

In general, the two parties have agreed on matters of foreign policy since the end of the war. Republican and Democratic leaders have joined in supporting a "bipartisan foreign policy." Both Republicans and Democrats, for example, have voted for giving aid to Greece and Turkey and for the European Recovery Program, measures which were first proposed by President Truman.

(Concluded on page 2)

Communist Goal In Southeast Asia

Observers Believe That Russia Is Engaged in an Attempt To Dominate Region

CERTAIN writers on foreign affairs express the opinion that Russia's major goal today is the domination of the Far East. The Russians, they continue, are essentially Oriental, and realize that there are over a billion Asiatics who, given the opportunity, could rule the world. Because of this fact, the theory continues, the Communists are attempting to fix America's attention on Europe while they consolidate their positions in the East. Whether this speculation is valid or not, there is no doubt that in China, India, Pakistan, Korea and particularly in the countries of Southeast Asia, Communist activity is increasing.

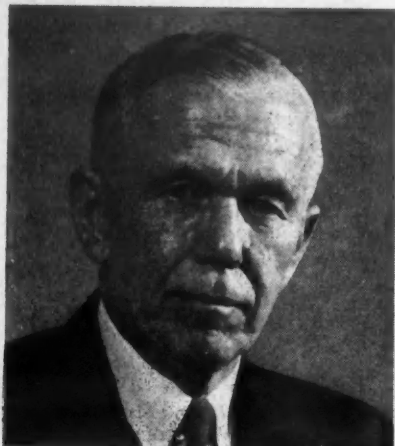
The region known as Southeast Asia includes the following: Burma, until recently a part of the British Empire and now an independent republic; Siam, another independent Oriental country; Malaya and the British possessions and protectorates on the island of Borneo; French Indo-China; the Philippines; and the Netherlands Indies (Indonesia). The last area includes Java, Sumatra, Celebes, the greater part of Borneo, the Moluccas, part of Timor (the eastern part of which belongs to Portugal), the western half of the huge island of New Guinea, and innumerable smaller islands. The total population of the region is approximately 150 million.

There are three facts about Southeast Asia which are important to keep in mind. First, there is a genuine movement for self-government among the peoples of those colonies which are still ruled by European nations. Second, there is a desperate lack of food, and the standard of living is unbelievably low. Third, the Communists in this area are making use of the people's longing for food and liberty in an attempt to bring Southeast Asia under the influence of the Soviet Union.

The end of the war brought a great awakening of nationalism to the East. The desire for freedom from colonial and imperialistic rule has long been growing among the inhabitants, and it increased greatly during the Japanese occupation. When World War II ended, it became apparent to the greatest colonial power in the East, Great Britain, that demands for independence from such possessions as India and Burma could not go unheeded. Negotiations were therefore undertaken and soon brought actual freedom to both these countries.

The two other important colonial powers in the East, France and the Netherlands, have used troops in suppressing revolutions in Indo-China

(Concluded on page 6)



HARRIS & EWING

The Parties

(Concluded from page 1)

Many Republican members of Congress, however, favored smaller appropriations than the President recommended. The Republican members of the House Appropriations Committee, for example, approved a large cut in the funds for the European Recovery Program. But other Republican congressmen, supported by most of the Democrats, rejected the committee's recommendation and voted to restore nearly the full amount.

Both parties support the United Nations. The Republican platform contains this statement: "We believe in collective security in behalf of justice and freedom. We shall support the United Nations as the world's best hope in this direction, striving to strengthen it and promote its effective evolution and use."

Speaking for the Democrats, President Truman recently declared: "We are giving and will continue to give our full support to the United Nations. While that organization has encountered unforeseen and unwelcome difficulties, I am confident of its ultimate success."

One issue which caused a sharp difference of opinion between the two parties last month was the renewal of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act. This is the law which permits the President to make agreements with other countries to lower American tariffs on certain imported goods in exchange for lowered foreign tariffs on United States products. On the question of extending the law without change for three years, the vote was as follows:

Republicans—yes, 19; no, 250

Democrats—yes, 190; no, 7

The law was finally extended for one year only.

States' Rights

On the domestic front, one of the chief differences between the two parties concerns the historic issue of "states' rights." During the years of Democratic supremacy since 1932, there has been a trend toward centralizing power in the federal government. This trend has been defended by most Democrats on the ground that only the federal government can deal effectively with nation-wide problems such as unemployment, social security, aid to farmers, and conservation of natural resources.

The Republican party agrees that certain problems must be dealt with by the federal government, but it feels that the Democrats have gone too far in this direction. Its leaders argue that the government in Washington



BIRCH IN ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

IT IS A SMALL WORLD, AFTER ALL. The major political parties have cooperated in formulating many features of U. S. foreign policy. George Marshall (top left), Secretary of State, has been responsible for carrying out that policy, while Arthur Vandenberg (top right), a leading Republican senator, has guided necessary legislation through Congress.

has extended its authority over a number of problems which should be handled by the individual states.

While, in general, this is the way the two parties line up on the states' rights issue, they sometimes take exactly opposite positions on concrete questions. For example, many more Republicans than Democrats favor federal laws designed to guarantee the civil rights of minority groups in the various states. The large majority of Republicans desire a federal anti-lynching law, together with national legislation to eliminate state poll taxes and to assure minority groups (Negroes and others) that they will be treated fairly.

Although President Truman and many others in his party also support the idea of such federal laws, a large number of Democrats, including most of those in the South, do not. They feel that the individual states are in a better position than the central government to grapple with such matters.

It is to be seen, therefore, that there is not a clear-cut issue between the two major parties on the question of states' rights, just as there isn't on many other issues. But it may be said that the Republicans as a whole favor somewhat less federal control over American social and economic life than do the Democrats as a whole.

"We must keep our free enterprise system," the Republicans say. "We must shun increasing government control of our lives, which leads to socialism and totalitarianism. Individual initiative, not government red tape, has been the secret of our success in the past, and is our only hope for progress in the future."

To this the Democrats reply:

"We do not wish to stifle individual initiative or destroy our system of free enterprise. But in many cases—housing, unemployment, and high prices, for example—we need government

control. When private business fails to meet the needs of our people, then the government must do something about it."

Most business leaders have favored the Republican party because it has advocated policies favorable to business. The Republicans have supported measures to reduce personal income taxes and taxes on corporations, to restrict the power of labor unions, and generally allow businessmen greater freedom from governmental regulation.

For example, one of the first acts of the Republican-controlled 80th Congress this spring was passage of a tax-reduction bill. President Truman then vetoed the measure, saying that it would benefit the rich more than the poor, and that it would undermine the government's financial position. The Republican sponsors of the bill replied that tax reduction would stimulate business enterprise and would not weaken the government's financial status if proper economy measures were adopted and waste eliminated.

Both houses of Congress then passed the measure over the veto by a two-thirds vote. Every Republican congressman, except two, voted for the bill. The Democrats divided among themselves, with 94 voting for the tax cut and 109 voting against it.

On the question of how to check the rising cost of living, the differences between the two parties are fairly clear. President Truman, supported by many Democratic leaders, has urged the adoption of a 10-point government program to stop the inflation spiral. He has recommended that Congress restore wartime restrictions on installment buying, and re-enact laws for price control, rationing, and wage control.

The Republican leaders disagree with the President on the need for



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such drastic legislation. They believe that prices will come down naturally if production is increased, taxes are reduced, wages are kept from rising, and losses resulting from strikes are prevented. Republican leaders agree upon the need for some anti-inflation legislation, but they favor much less federal control than President Truman does.

How do the two parties stand on the subject of labor legislation? The best answer to this question is found in a comparison of the Wagner Act, passed in 1935 when the Democrats controlled Congress, and the Taft-Hartley Act, passed in 1947 when the Republicans controlled Congress. It must be remembered, however, that many Democratic lawmakers favor certain changes in the Wagner Act. In spite of President Truman's veto of the Taft-Hartley bill, a majority of the Democratic congressmen voted in favor of it.

Two Labor Laws

The Wagner Act of 1935 gave many privileges to workers and protected their right to join unions. It also placed certain restrictions on employers and forbade them to engage in "unfair labor practices." As a result, the Wagner Act was hailed by labor unions as "the Magna Carta of American labor."

The Taft-Hartley Act of 1947, according to its sponsors, was passed to even up the balance between labor and management. Certain union practices, such as the closed shop, were forbidden. Employers were granted important privileges, such as the right to speak out against unions when talking to their workers. As a result, the Taft-Hartley Act was praised by businessmen and criticized by labor unions.

During the present election campaign, the issue between the two parties on labor legislation may be summed up as follows: In each party the majority wants to continue the present policy of keeping labor unions and leaders under closer control of the federal government than they have been in recent years, but the Republicans as a whole favor somewhat tighter restrictions than do the Democrats as a whole.

The lines dividing the two parties may be drawn more clearly as a result of the special session of Congress which meets in Washington today. Republican leaders will answer President Truman's charges that the 80th Congress has failed to enact much needed legislation. In addition, during the weeks which follow, major campaign speeches by the rival Presidential candidates will show exactly how they stand on the issues before the nation.

Weekly Digest of Fact and Opinion

(The opinions quoted or summarized on this page are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

"Is Your Town Fit To Live In?" by Guy Greer, American.

U. S. cities are crowded, run down, and badly in need of overhauling. For example, if your town's traffic situation is typical, it is close to a nightmare. In the downtown districts of some cities you are lucky to average 4 miles an hour in your car. In fact, you can usually get to your destination faster by walking. Moreover, if you think traffic conditions are bad now, wait a few years. It is estimated that there will be 10,000,000 more cars on the roads by 1960 than there are today.

Most cities are not only congested but are decaying near the core from blight arising from lack of proper planning and zoning. Look at your town. Its central business district is likely to be surrounded by a crowded zone of grimy buildings and shacks. The average city must spend nearly half of all its available funds for police, fire, health, and other city services in the blighted sections, while receiving from such slum areas only 6 per cent of the total revenue provided by property taxes.

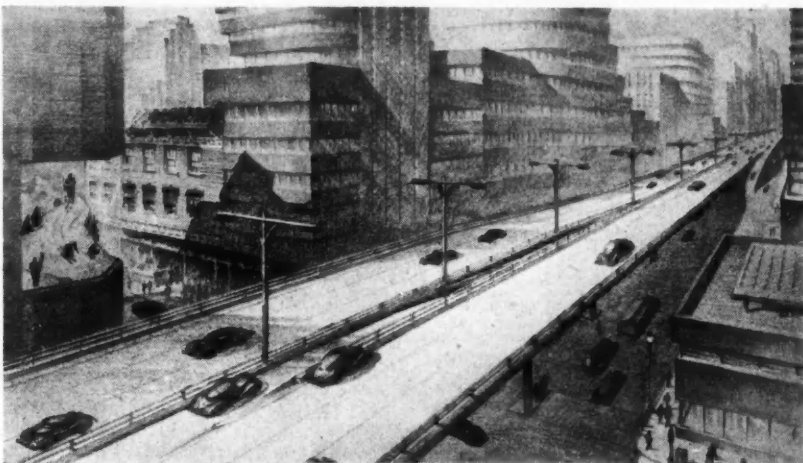


PRINTING has changed greatly since young Ben Franklin operated a hand press

To escape downtown congestion, dirt, and noise, many people who can afford to do so are making their homes in suburban communities just outside the big cities. This movement leaves the cities with their blighted areas to support, but deprives them of large numbers of prosperous citizens. Because communities on the outskirts depend largely upon the cities' businesses and industries for a livelihood, they should be required to share responsibility for the big municipalities' welfare.

Moreover, there should be over-all plans for the development of whole metropolitan areas, so that the suburbs themselves will not be in danger of eventual decay. In other words, the average city needs the power to exercise more control over the growth at its fringes.

At the same time it needs to clear up the blight and congestion at its center. A great deal of progress is being made along this line in some localities. Many cities are planning to cut through traffic snarls by pushing "super de luxe" expressways right into the heart of town. They are seeking to provide more downtown



ELEVATED HIGHWAYS will help clear up the blight and congestion that are ruining many cities of the United States

parking lots, garages, or rooftop parking places for motorists' convenience.

Some communities are buying and redeveloping slum areas. But, if action is taken in time, you don't necessarily need to raze a run-down area to check its blight. For instance, the citizens of a declining Baltimore district held a meeting, listened to the advice of experts, and then got busy with paint, scrub brushes, hammers, trowels, and wheelbarrows to save their neighborhood.

"Look At This, Mr. Gutenberg," by C. Lester Walker, Harper's.

New inventions are making a real revolution in the printing industry. One of these is the "justifying type-writer," which can allow varying amounts of space for its letters and thus produce type with straight margins on the right side of a column, as well as on the left.

With this machine, copy can be typed in columns like those of a newspaper, then pasted on cardboard to form a model page. With headlines and pictures pasted in, the page is photographed. Metal plates are engraved from the resulting picture, as smaller engraved printing plates have for many years been produced from ordinary photographs.

Newspapers which have in recent months been using this new, simple method have found it more expensive than older processes, in which the printing plates are molded from metal type that has been set by hand or by a linotype machine. However, as the new system becomes perfected, its cost may be greatly reduced.

Another revolutionary process is sometimes known as "ghost printing." In this method, an extremely rapid one, the surface of the type never touches the paper. Instead, electricity causes ink to jump across a short space from the type roller to the newsprint.

The publishing industry is employing new materials as well as new machines. Printing plates made of rubber and of plastic, instead of metal, are now being used successfully on some presses.

"Universal Training for Democracy," by Chester Bowles, New York Times Magazine.

Only the light-headed can question the fact that we are faced with a world crisis. Russia and America are wrapped in a power struggle out of which anything, including a third world war, may develop. The outcome

of the struggle between East and West will be deeply affected by our military power or our lack of it. In the next 10 years, however, it may be affected even more profoundly by the following factors:

(1) Our ability to understand complex social problems and to develop the enlightened public opinion on which a democracy must depend.

(2) Our ability to eliminate the racial hatreds which cause people in other parts of the world to view our demand for political democracy abroad with cynicism.

(3) The mental and physical health of our people.

(4) The number of American men and women who possess those skills essential both in war and in peace.

(5) Our ability to establish high levels of economic security for all our people, and to maintain full production and full employment.

In order to promote national strength along these lines, we must establish new standards of education. We must train more doctors, dentists, teachers, and scientists. We must increase our skills. We must develop a new sense of power based not on our ability to destroy but on our ability to create.

Therefore, let us offer each boy and girl who is qualified two years of col-

lege on the same free basis as our present elementary and secondary school system, and make free scholarships available to high-standing students for further study in such fields as law, medicine, engineering, and the ministry.

Such a project, which would make a tremendous contribution to our national strength, would cost less than the frequently proposed Universal Military Training program.

"Scandinavia Charts a Course," by Erik Seidenfaden, Foreign Affairs.

World War II, which resulted in the Nazi occupation of Norway and Denmark, clearly showed the three Scandinavian countries that they occupy a region which is of considerable importance to great combatant powers in time of war. Many Scandinavians conclude, therefore, that their traditional policy of neutrality is no longer of value—that their nations must be prepared to take sides in the struggles between larger states.

These northern nations are moving slowly and cautiously, but in general they are aligning themselves with the United States and the countries of western Europe. Of the three Scandinavian lands, Norway is the most definitely oriented toward the west; then comes Denmark; and, last, Sweden. Having managed to keep out of war for 134 years, many of the Swedish people think they might be able to remain neutral in the future as well.

It is principally in economic matters that the Scandinavians are willing to work closely together with the democracies of the West. For instance, they are taking part in the Marshall plan for European recovery, but are not joining military alliances with the western nations. The Scandinavian governments, it seems, are prepared to assist in long-term efforts toward European Union, initiated from the west. But they want to start at the bottom, in the practical economic phases, and not at the top, in the military phase.



THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES are questioning the value of their traditional policy of neutrality. In their search for a new course, they are being led by the premiers shown above: Einar Gerhardsen of Norway (left), Hans Hedtoft of Denmark (center), and Tage Erlander of Sweden.

The Story of the Week

Congress Meets

Congress is meeting today in special session. President Truman has called the nation's lawmakers back to Washington to deal with a number of domestic issues. Some of these matters were left as "unfinished business" when Congress wound up its regular session five weeks ago, while others did not receive the full attention which Mr. Truman feels they merit.

The rising cost of living and the housing shortage are two of the problems with which Congress has been asked to deal. Other matters upon which it may act include a civil rights program, federal aid to education, a national health plan, public power projects, the admission of more dis-

which has been taking place in farm states for some time.

As yet, no large-scale shift of industry to this area has taken place, but the recent construction of a few big factories may be an indication of what the future will bring. One on the largest aluminum plants in the country is expected to start operations near Davenport, Iowa, this fall. The manufacture of gasoline from natural gas at Garden City, Kansas, is expected to contribute greatly to that region's prosperity. In many other parts of the Midwest, industrial development is already well beyond the planning stage.

Water Champions

The U. S. swimming and diving team which goes into action this week at the Olympic Games in London will consist of 21 men and 17 women. Outstanding among the individual champions are Ann Curtis of San Francisco and Jimmy McLane of Akron, Ohio. They are the only members of the team to emerge as double winners in the final tryouts held two weeks ago in Detroit.

A junior at the University of California, Miss Curtis is America's chief hope in the women's water sprints. She holds more than a dozen American records and has been a consistent winner in national free-style competition in recent years. Miss Curtis will represent this country in the 100- and 400-meter races and will also take part in the relay.

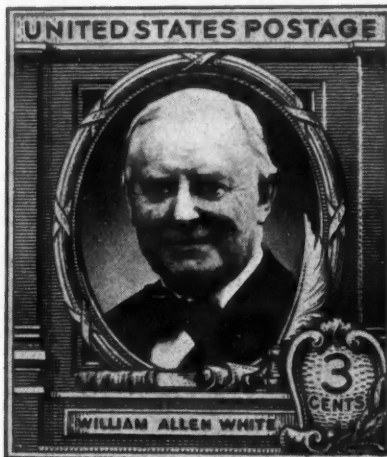
Jimmy McLane, a 17-year-old Andover Academy schoolboy, has proved himself the best distance swimmer in the United States. In competition against adults, he has been winning national honors since he was 13. McLane will compete in the 400- and 1500-meter, free-style events, both of which he won at Detroit.

Other individual winners in the swimming tryouts—who may go on to win world honors in their specialties—include Joe Verdeur of LaSalle College, Wally Ris of the University of Iowa, Allen Stack of Yale University, Jeanne Wilson of Chicago, and Suzanne Zimmerman of Portland, Oregon. On the basis of their performances at Detroit, America's top divers include Bruce Harlan of Ohio State University and three stars from the West Coast—Sammy Lee of Pasadena, Zoe Ann Olsen of Oakland, and Victoria Draves of Los Angeles.

Trieste Joins ERP

The latest member of the European group which is to receive aid under the Marshall Plan is the little Free Territory of Trieste on the Adriatic Sea. The European Economic Organization, the agency supervising the recovery effort, recently voted unanimously to allow Trieste to take part in the program.

At present the Free Territory of Trieste—a 300-square-mile area wedged between Italy and Yugoslavia—is supposed to be under the supervision of the UN Security Council. Actually it is divided into British, American, and Yugoslav occupation zones and is under military control. The troops are scheduled to leave as soon as the United Nations is ready



WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE is being honored with this commemorative stamp. The noted editor of Emporia, Kansas, died in 1944.

to take over, but the world agency has thus far not been able to select a governor acceptable to all its member countries.

Only the British and American zones of Trieste will at first take part in the recovery program. Eventually—when UN control is actually established—it is expected that the entire Free Territory will be eligible for American aid.

Shrimp from Mexico

Shrimp fishing is now the cause of an unusual business boom in certain ports along the east coast of Mexico. Hundreds of fishermen are striking it rich on the Gulf banks bordering the peninsula of Yucatan. The fat, pink shrimps—small marine creatures closely related to the crawfish—are so plentiful in these waters that the supply may last for years.

The thriving shrimp industry is bringing about overnight changes in the lives of the natives of this region. In some cases workers are earning as much in one day as they formerly made in a week. Prices, too, have shot upward, and speculators are swarming into the coastal area. Illegal fishing practices are becoming widespread, and many feel that unless conservation measures are practiced, the present period of prosperity may be short-lived.

American fishermen with modern equipment are making the best catches. In large quantities shrimps are being shipped to the Gulf of Mexico ports in the United States. Highly prized for their delicate flavor, they are finding a ready market.

Junior Police

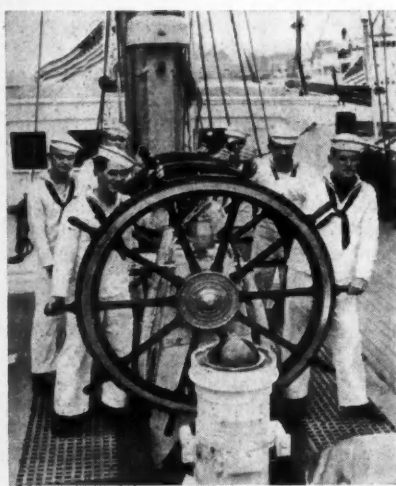
More than a quarter of a million boys in towns and cities all over the country are now helping law-enforcement agencies stamp out juvenile delinquency. Ranging in age from 10 to 18, the boys are organized into groups known as junior policemen or junior deputy sheriffs. In nearly every community where these groups have been formed, a marked drop in juvenile crime has resulted.

Local police and sheriffs help to set up the junior law-enforcement agencies. They give the boys training in first aid and traffic safety and afford them an inside view of the work of a police force. The boys then serve as playground and traffic guards, help to curb juvenile vandalism, and aid law enforcement in a variety of other ways. Their responsibilities as junior policemen induce the boys to keep out of trouble themselves and to keep other youngsters from going astray.

One of the first of the junior police forces was established in Mattoon, Illinois. During its first year of operation, the number of youths taken into custody by the Mattoon police totaled 13, as compared to more than 400 the previous year. Certain other communities have modeled their own junior police organizations on the Mattoon force. Officials hope that more than 2 million boys will eventually be enrolled in the nation-wide fight for crime prevention.

British Health Program

A far-reaching national health plan is now in full operation in Great Britain. It entitles the British people to medical care, dental treatment, eye and ear care, and medicines at government expense. Regular taxation will finance most of the program, but the costs will be partially defrayed by an added deduction of 14 cents a



U. S. COAST GUARD CADETS were in England recently for a 10-day visit, as part of their annual training cruise.

placed persons, and the extension of social security.

The present session marks the second time within a year that our lawmakers have been convened for an emergency meeting. Last November they were summoned for a special session in which much of the groundwork for the European Recovery Program was accomplished.

Busy Midwest

The rich wheat belt of the nation may someday be one of the major centers of American industry. Throughout the Midwest careful plans are being laid to promote manufacturing in the region where prosperity for years has been almost wholly dependent on agriculture. Natural resources and new ideas in industrial development are seen as the basis of future growth in this area.

Natural resources which may help to attract industry to the Midwest include limestone, clay, chalk, glass sand, and lead. The further development of hydroelectric power is expected to play a major part in the transformation of the region. Experimentation now going on in government laboratories may find new uses for such farm crops as corn, wheat, and soy beans and even many waste products like straw and corn cobs.

Community leaders who are laying the groundwork for industrial expansion point out that the presence of manufacturing plants would act as a shock absorber to the region's economy in years when crops were not good. They also think that it would put a stop to the population drop



ANN CURTIS (right) of San Francisco is the leading member of the women's swimming team representing the United States at the Olympic Games in London this week. **Brenda Hessler** (left) of Los Angeles is also on the team.

week from the salary of each worker.

Doctors and dentists are permitted to continue in private practice if they wish, and many are doing so. But the government has taken over the ownership of all hospitals except a small number which belong to religious orders.

The subject of much controversy, the new scheme has been opposed by many doctors, although opposition has lessened in recent months. Critics of the plan think that doctors taking part may lose much of their freedom and, in effect, become government employees. Others say that such a view is highly exaggerated, and predict that the new service will substantially raise health standards.

The health plan is a part of the comprehensive social security program which has been pushed forward by the Labor Party since it came into power in 1945. Much preliminary work, however, was done by the coalition government during the war years. The Beveridge report, published in 1942, was the basis for the present program. This report became widely known as "the cradle-to-the-grave" plan since it was designed to give benefits for life.

Voice of America

How effective are the government-sponsored Voice of America broadcasts in reaching foreign listeners who want to know the truth about the United States? Since it is impossible to check on the number of listeners abroad, this question cannot be accurately answered. Nevertheless, an indication that the broadcasts may be exceedingly effective is seen in recent reports from Hungary.

According to information received by our State Department, the Communist-dominated government of Hungary is trying to prevent its citizens from listening to the Voice of America. Although apparently it is not illegal to tune in on the broadcasts, the people of Hungary are given to understand that it is not "healthy" for them to do so. People arrested and charged with "inciting against Hungarian democracy" find that their having listened to American broadcasts is considered in court as evidence of their guilt. Despite the dangers involved, it is said, many Hungarians continue to listen to the programs.

Reports such as these from Hungary indicate once more to our State Department that many Europeans are anxious to know our side of the story even though their own governments are determined to keep them from doing so. Consequently, plans are now being made to expand the Voice of America.

The Nation's Railroads

After two months of operation by the Army, the nation's railroads are now back in the hands of their owners. The federal government instructed the Army to take over the railroads last May when a prolonged dispute between the rail companies and certain unions of rail employees threatened to tie up much of the country's transportation facilities. The unions recently agreed to accept a 15½-cent hourly increase in wages and certain changes in working conditions. The Army thereupon



CHILDREN IN BERLIN'S HOSPITALS are receiving powdered milk and eggs from American occupation forces. The powdered substitutes take the place of fresh supplies cut off by Russia's blockade of the city.

relinquished its operation of the roads.

On the same day, the Interstate Commerce Commission granted fare increases to most of the railways in the northeastern part of the United States. In the majority of cases, fares were raised by about 15 to 20 per cent. The increases were allowed on the grounds that the railroads' operating costs have gone up considerably in recent months.

Military Alliance?

Important, secret talks which may possibly lead to a military alliance of some of the western democracies are now under way in Washington. Taking part are representatives of Canada, the United States, and the members of the Western European Union—Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg.

The discussions, which may go on for several months, are the first step toward putting into effect a resolution passed in the Senate last month. Drafted by Senator Vandenberg, the resolution urged that the United States enter into an effective security pact with some of its neighbors. Regional groups of this type are sanctioned by the United Nations Charter.

Before such a pact can be drawn up, a number of troublesome problems must be threshed out. Among them are such things as the amount and the cost of military aid which the United States might be expected to furnish in support of such an alliance. The fall elections also pose a problem, since those taking part in the present

talks want to be sure that their conclusions are acceptable to the party which wins next November.

Palestine Situation

The United Nations Security Council has—at the time of this writing—apparently succeeded in bringing about a halt to the Palestine fighting. Both Jews and Arabs have tentatively agreed to comply with the cease-fire order directed at them by the world agency. UN authorities hope that the present truce will last until terms for peace have been agreed upon.

To cope with the Holy Land situation, the Security Council has threatened strong action. The world agency has said that if it is forced to do so it will act under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. This part of the Charter gives the United Nations the power to bring strong economic and political pressure to bear on an aggressor nation and, as a last resort, to take military action against it. Never before had the UN threatened such a drastic step to keep the peace.

If the United Nations can succeed in enforcing the truce, observers agree that such a step will greatly increase the prestige of the world agency, but they are quick to point out that a truce does not necessarily imply future peace in the Holy Land. While Arabs and Jews seem generally willing to stop fighting under certain conditions, they appear to be as far apart as ever in a final adjustment of their difficulties. Only long and patient negotiation can bring about lasting peace in this troubled corner of the world.

Newsmaker

General Clay

UPON the shoulders of General Lucius Clay, U. S. Military Governor in Germany, falls much of the responsibility of coping with Russia's economic blockade of Berlin. His handling of the difficult situation is sure to have far-reaching effects. Upon his judgment may depend to a high degree not only the immediate welfare of two and a half million people in the western sectors of Berlin, but also—in the opinion of many observers—the entire future of democratic government in Germany.

Born 51 years ago in Marietta, Georgia, Lucius Clay comes from a family prominent in government. His father was a U. S. senator, while one of his earlier forebears was the great American statesman, Henry Clay.

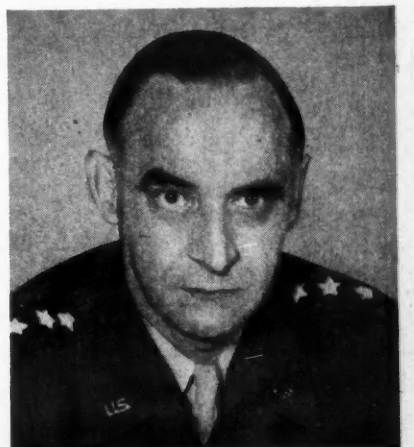
As a boy Lucius Clay occasionally acted as a Senate page. Deciding on a military career, he went to West Point. He was commissioned as an Army engineer in 1918.

During the next 20 years the young officer received varied experience. Among other things, he attended engineering schools, instructed at West Point, and directed the construction of several large dams. He served in the Philippines and Panama.

In World War II Clay became one of the Army's top trouble-shooters. Working closely with industrial leaders, he eliminated many bottlenecks in production and supply. Among his outstanding accomplishments were such special assignments as un-snarl the supply jam at Cherbourg and speeding the flow of ammunition to Europe after the Battle of the Bulge. Appointed as Eisenhower's chief assistant in Germany in 1945, General Clay became U. S. commander in Europe early in 1947.

General Clay thinks that American firmness—teamed with air power—can beat the Russian economic blockade of Berlin. In fact—unlike some observers—the military governor believes that we can continue successfully to supply Berlin by air all winter if necessary.

Trim and military in appearance, General Clay has a blunt, straightforward manner. He puts in long hours at his office, drinking innumerable cups of coffee as he works. General Clay lives with his wife in a suburb of Berlin.



Military Governor

SIGNAL CORPS

Communism in Asia

(Concluded from page 1)

and Indonesia, respectively. Although there is evidence that the rebels were Communist-inspired, it is also true that the uprisings were, to a considerable extent, manifestations of a genuine desire for freedom.

The situation in Asiatic colonies which have not attained their independence has played right into the Communists' hands, for they have been able to align themselves on the side of the many groups which are demanding freedom. In those lands which are self-governing, the Communists are quietly consolidating their positions and awaiting what they hope will be the inevitable political division into the extreme liberal group and the extreme conservative group. They will then seek to dominate the liberals and, through them, the entire state.

Conditions in Malaya

Malaya. The first Communist target is Malaya, roughly the geographical center of Southeast Asia. About the size of England, Malaya is the source of more than half the world's supply of natural rubber and 30 per cent of its tin. It is almost entirely dependent upon the United States as a buyer of its exports.

The dominant factor in Malaya's economy is the present low price of rubber as compared to the extremely high price of rice, the main food of all East Asia. High food prices, British imperialism and the big gap between the rich and the poor have created an economic situation which is fertile ground for Communism.

Politically, Malaya presents equally fine opportunities for the Communists, inasmuch as a serious race problem exists. Singapore, its capital, is about 80 per cent Chinese, and as early as 1931 the Malays themselves accounted for only about 45 per cent of the total Malayan population.

Under the new constitution adopted after the war, the Chinese are given certain rights, but the Malays maintain a majority in the Legislative Council and are given the final say as to immigration and citizenship outside Singapore, which remains a British crown colony. This, in effect, has cre-

ated a rule by a minority. Although it has been pointed out that there is considerable justice in allowing the Malays, who are natives, to exercise sovereignty over the Chinese, who are not, the Communists have been quick to seize upon the issue as a springboard for their drive for power.

During the past two months, Communist tactics in Malaya have become extremely violent. On July 7, Malcolm MacDonald, Commissioner General for the United Kingdom in Southeast Asia, announced in a speech prepared for broadcast throughout Malaya: "The present terrorist outbreak in the Federation, which may at any time spread to Singapore, is part of a deliberate plan by Malayan Communists to stage a violent revolution and capture the Government by force."

The terrorist outbreak to which he referred consisted of a series of murders and attempted murders of European planters and anti-Communist Chinese as well as many attempts at arson, intimidation and assault. Already over 50 persons have been killed and the British are employing the full power of their land and air forces to wipe out the guerrillas, estimated to number about 6,000.

The Communist aims appear to be twofold. First, they are attempting to slow the flow of rubber, tin, oil and other strategic raw materials into the defense stockpiles of the United States and Western Europe. Second, by disrupting the economy of Malaya, they hope to lay an even firmer foundation than already exists for an eventual attempt to gain full political control.

Indo-China. Well-informed sources believe that the Communists count heavily on eventual success in Indo-China. On August 28, 1945, the Independent League of Indo-China proclaimed a Republic, called Viet Nam, with Hanoi as its capital. The French did not recognize this republic, and months of bloody fighting ensued until finally the French government accepted Viet Nam as "a free state within the Indo-Chinese Federation and the French Union."

In other words, France recognized only that Viet Nam existed as one



IS THE CONQUEST of Southeast Asia one of communism's principal objectives?

state in the Indo-Chinese Federation and not that it constituted the sovereign government of all Indo-China. Since that time, the Viet Namese have fought on, but the French troops have prevented them from consolidating all of Indo-China under their government.

Communist influence is already very strong in Viet Nam. Although the Communist Party was officially dissolved when the Republic was proclaimed, three Communists became cabinet ministers. One of them, Ho Chi Minh, became President of the Republic, and despite his protestations that he is no longer a Communist, many feel certain that his sympathies lie with Russia.

Only about 10 or 20 per cent of the rank-and-file Viet Namese are Communists. Nevertheless, so long as the fighting continues and complete independence from France is not achieved, the Communists can count on more and more support among the Indo-Chinese people.

Indonesia. Another important area of Communist infiltration is Indonesia. After a 14-month fight against Dutch troops, the Republic of Indonesia was recognized by the Netherlands as having authority over Java, Madura and Sumatra. The compromise agreement signed by the two governments called for the "rapid formation of a democratic state on a federal basis, to be called the United States of Indonesia." It was decided to establish by next January first a "Netherlands-Indonesian Union," under which both parties to the agreement would be equal partners under the Netherlands royal house.

Fighting soon broke out again over a dispute as to the new republic's form of government, and the matter was brought to the attention of the United Nations. A truce was arranged and negotiations are still in progress in an effort to settle the problem.

So far, the Indonesian Communist Party has been of small significance numerically, but it has joined forces with the Labor Party, the Socialist Party and various youth groups in a "People's Democratic Front." There is little doubt that until some satis-

factory compromise is worked out between the Netherlands and the Indonesian government, the influence of these few Communists will increase as will the numbers of those who follow their leadership.

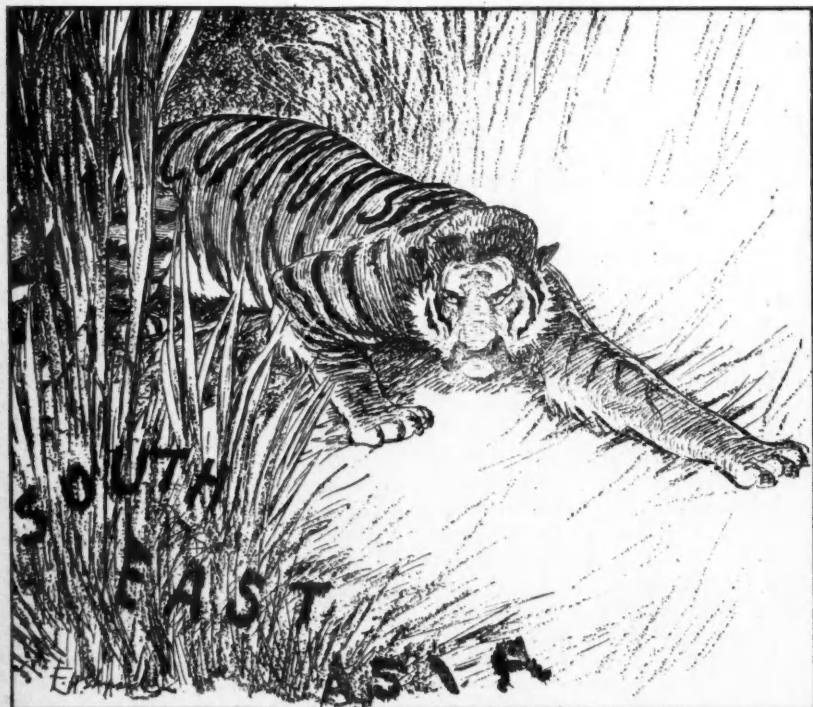
Burma, Siam and the Philippines. Burma, completely independent of Great Britain since January of this year, is governed by a Socialist government headed by Thankin Nu. The suppression of the Communist Party a few months ago drove it underground, and open fighting has been reported between Communist guerrillas and government forces. Just what tactics the Communists will follow in Burma are not yet clear, but it is certain that this young republic is included in their plans for a Southeast Asian bloc.

Is Siam Next?

Although relatively calm, Siam fears that it will be next on the Communist list. Not long ago a large Russian delegation of over 40 persons arrived in Bangkok to establish the first Soviet legation in Siam. The sending of such a large diplomatic force to so small a country indicates Soviet intentions to make the most of their opportunities in spreading Communist influence throughout that general area.

The Communists are not yet very strong in the new Republic of the Philippines. On the other hand, the economic conditions of the country, the most important of which is the need for land reforms, are favorable for Communist infiltration. Without continued economic aid from the United States and a fairer distribution of the land, the islands might well fall under Russian domination.

The challenge of the Soviet Union in Southeast Asia cannot be met simply by giving independence to the colonial peoples of the region. Political freedom does not automatically mean freedom from economic and social problems, as the new governments of Burma and the Philippines have been quick to find out. Until the solutions for these problems are found, the threat of Communism in this area will continue to be a major issue.



NEW HUNTING GROUND

An English cartoonist's view of communism's threat to Southeast Asia

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Highlights of Democratic Party Platform

(A summary of the Republican platform was published in THE AMERICAN OBSERVER of July 5, 1948.)

The Democratic Party adopts this platform in the conviction that the destiny of the United States is to provide leadership in the world toward a realization of the Four Freedoms.

We chart our future course as we charted our course under the leadership of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman in the abiding belief that democracy—when dedicated to the service of all and not to a privileged few—proves its superiority over all other forms of government. . . .

Ours is the party which rebuilt a shattered economy, rescued our banking system, revived our agriculture, reinvigorated our industry, gave labor strength and security, and led the American people to the broadest prosperity in our history. . . .

Ours is the party which stood at the helm and led the nation to victory in war.

Ours is the party which, during the war, prepared for peace so well that when peace came reconversion promptly led to the greatest production and employment in this nation's life. . . .

Ours is the party under which were conceived the instruments for resisting Communist aggression and for rebuilding the economic strength of the democratic countries of Europe and Asia—the Truman doctrine and the Marshall plan.

Foreign Policy

We support the United Nations fully and we pledge our whole-hearted aid toward its growth and development. We will continue to lead the way toward curtailment of the use of the veto. . . .

We advocate the effective international control of weapons of mass destruction, including the atomic bomb. . . .

We pledge a sound, humanitarian administration of the Marshall plan. . . .

We pledge ourselves to restore the reciprocal trade agreements program formulated in 1934 by Secretary of State Cordell Hull and operated successfully for fourteen years—until crippled by the Republican Eightieth Congress. Further, we strongly indorse our country's adherence to the International Trade Organization. . . .

We pledge full recognition to the state of Israel. We affirm our pride that the United States under the leadership of President Truman played a leading role in the adoption of the resolution of November 29, 1947, by the United Nations General Assembly for the creation of a Jewish state. . . .

Inflation and Housing

The Republican Eightieth Congress is directly responsible for the existing and ever-increasing high cost of living. It cannot dodge that responsibility. . . .

We shall curb the Republican inflation. We shall put a halt to the disastrous price rises which have come as a result of the failure of the Republican Eightieth Congress to take effective action on President Truman's recommendations, setting forth a comprehensive program to control the cost of living.

We shall enact comprehensive housing legislation, including provision for slum clear-

ance and low-rent housing projects initiated by local agencies. This nation is shamed by the failure of the Republican Eightieth Congress to pass the vitally needed general housing legislation as recommended by the President. Adequate housing will end the need for rent control.

We pledge the continued maintenance of those sound fiscal policies which under Democratic leadership have brought about a balanced budget and reduction of the public debt by \$28 billion since the close of the war.

We favor the reduction of taxes, whenever it is possible to do so without unbalancing the nation's economy, by giving a full measure of relief to those millions of low-income families on whom the war-time burden of taxation fell most heavily. The form of tax reduction adopted by the Republican Eightieth Congress gave relief to those who need it least. . . .

Labor Legislation

We advocate the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act. It was enacted by the Republican Eightieth Congress over the President's veto. . . .

It has failed. The number of labor-management disputes has increased. The number of cases before the National Labor Relations Board has more than doubled since the act was passed, and efficient administration is becoming more and more difficult. . . .

We favor the extension of the coverage of the fair labor standards act as recommended by President Truman, and the adoption of a minimum wage of at least 75 cents an hour in place of the present obsolete and inadequate minimum of 40 cents an hour. . . .

We favor the extension of the Social Security program established under Democratic leadership, to provide additional protection against the hazards of old age, disability, disease or death. . . .

We favor the enactment of a national health program for expanded medical research, medical education and hospitals and clinics. . . .

We advocate Federal aid for education administered by and under the control of the states. . . .

The nation can never discharge its debts to its millions of war veterans. We pledge ourselves to the continuance and improvement of our national program of benefits for veterans and their families. . . .

Prosperity

We pledge our efforts to maintain continued farm prosperity, improvement of the standard of living and the working condition of the farmer, and to preserve the family-size farm.

Specifically, we favor a permanent system of flexible price supports for agricultural products, to maintain farm income on a parity with farm operating costs; an intensified soil conservation program; an extended crop insurance program; improvement of methods of distributing agricultural products; development and maintenance of stable export markets. . . .

We recognize the importance of small business in a sound American economy. It must be protected against unfair discrimination and monopoly, and be given equal opportunities with competing enterprises to expand its capital structure. . . .

We pledge the continued full and unified regional development of the water, mineral, and other national resources of the nation, recognizing that the progress already achieved under the initiative of the Democratic Party in the arid and semi-arid states of the West, as well as in the Tennessee Valley, is only an indication of still greater results which can be accomplished. Our natural resources are the heritages of all our people and must not be permitted to become the private preserves of monopoly. . . .

Civil Rights

The Democratic Party is responsible for the great civil-rights gains made in recent years in eliminating unfair and illegal discrimination based on race, creed or color. . . .

We again state our belief that racial and religious minorities must have the right to live, the right to work, the right to vote, the full and equal protection of the laws, on a basis of equality with all citizens as guaranteed by the Constitution.

We highly commend President Harry Truman for his courageous stand on the issue of civil rights.

We call upon the Congress to support our President in guaranteeing these basic and fundamental rights (1) the right of full and equal political participation, (2) the right to equal opportunity of employment, (3) the right of security of person, (4) and the right of equal treatment in the service and defense of our nation.

We pledge ourselves to legislation to admit a minimum of 400,000 displaced persons found eligible for United States citizenship without discrimination as to race or religion. We condemn the undemocratic action of the Republican Eightieth Congress in passing an inadequate and bigoted bill for this purpose. . . .

We recommend to Congress the submission of a constitutional amendment on equal rights for women. . . .

Safeguards

We pledge adherence to the principle of non-partisan civilian administration of atomic energy, and the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes through free scientific inquiry for the benefit of all the people. . . .

We will continue to maintain an adequate American merchant marine.

We condemn Communism and other forms of totalitarianism and their destructive activity overseas and at home. We shall continue to build firm defenses against Communism by strengthening the economic and social structure of our own democracy. . . .

We recognize that the United States has become the principal protector of the free world. The free peoples of the world look to us for support in maintaining their freedoms. If we falter in our leadership we may endanger the peace of the world—and we shall surely endanger the welfare of our own nation. For these reasons it is imperative that we maintain our military strength until world peace with justice is secure. . . .

With the guidance of divine providence we can proceed to higher levels of prosperity and security; we can advance to a better life at home; we can continue our leadership in the world with ever growing prospects for lasting peace.

Science News

A substitute for the glass vacuum tube in radios is soon to go into production. It consists of a metal tube slimmer than a pencil and less than an inch long. The tube, which has been christened "transitor," contains a dot of specially treated germanium metal and two wires. It will be used not only in the field of radio, but in the television and telephone industries as well.

★ ★ ★

A new device in the field of photography is a submarine camera designed to photograph the ocean's floor at depths exceeding three miles. To resist the pressure of the water at such depths, the lens and plateholder are mounted inside a cylinder bored from a solid piece of aluminum about the size of a basketball. The trigger is suspended from the bottom of the camera so that when it touches the floor of the ocean it sets off a flash bulb just as the shutter opens.

★ ★ ★

Coin-operated shoe-shining machines have been put into operation on the West Coast. Simply by putting a dime in the slot you can get a one-minute shine for both shoes. Moving buffers, loaded with soft wax, take one shoe at a time and shine and polish it simultaneously. A light flashes at the end of 30 seconds indicating it is time to change to the other shoe.

★ ★ ★

An answer to one of the great mysteries of science—why we go to sleep—has been advanced by Dr. Nathaniel Kleitman, of the University of Chicago's Sleep Laboratory. Over the past 25 years Dr. Kleitman has studied thousands of sleepers and is probably the leading authority on the subject.

He thinks the question should be not "What puts us to sleep?" but "What keeps us awake?" He points out that sleep is the primary state of living things, while wakefulness is a char-



20 GRAMS of a radio-active isotope of Selenium 75 has been received by the Ford Motor Company. The substance will be used for experiments in the manufacturer's applied physics laboratory. In the picture above, employees are carrying the isotope into an underground safety vault. It is in the 50-pound lead-lined container.

acteristic of life's secondary stages. Infants start out in life by sleeping most of the time and it is only as they grow older that their periods of wakefulness increase in length. Finally, by developing interest in the surrounding world, the child adapts itself to a fixed period of sleep during the night and activity during the day.



PHOTOS BY HARRIS & EWING

HARRY TRUMAN (left) and Alben Barkley are leading the Democratic Party's fight for victory at the polls in November

Democratic Nominees

Party Is Waging Battle for Nation's Top Political Offices with Truman and Barkley as Standard Bearers

WITH Harry Truman and Alben Barkley as its candidates for President and Vice President, the Democratic party is planning its strategy for the coming political campaign. Both candidates are experienced campaigners, and they are ready for a hard fight.

Actually, Mr. Truman is seeking the Presidency for the first time. He has, of course, been Chief Executive for more than three years, but he succeeded to the office on the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Born in Missouri in 1884, Harry Truman grew up on his father's farm. When he finished high school, he received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, but poor eyesight prevented his being admitted.

His family's financial reverses made it necessary for him to go to work at the age of 17. After trying several jobs, he returned to the farm where he, his brother, and his sister had been reared. For the next 12 years, Truman was a farmer, and during this time he began to take part in local politics.

Then came World War I, and the conflict completely changed the course of his life. Having served two enlistments in the National Guard, Mr. Truman managed to secure an appointment as first lieutenant in the Army. Promoted to the rank of captain, he served with the artillery in France.

Returned Home

After the war, he returned to Jackson County, Missouri, where he married Miss Bess Wallace, a schoolteacher. He and a friend opened a clothing store in Kansas City, but the venture failed, leaving Truman heavily in debt.

In 1922, he began his real political career as member of the Jackson County Court, a three-man board of supervisors which directed county affairs. By working hard for the state Democratic party, he went up the ladder step by step. In 1934 he was elected to the United States Senate, and six years later he was reelected.

While in the Senate, Mr. Truman did outstanding work as chairman of a committee which exposed waste in the armament program and the war effort. He attracted considerable attention, and in 1944 the Democrats nominated him as their candidate for

the Vice Presidency. Within three months after taking office as Vice President, Truman found himself in the White House.

In choosing Senator Alben Barkley of Kentucky as its Vice Presidential candidate, the Democratic Party has selected a man who has spent most of his adult life working for the party.

Goes to Congress

Since 1913, Senator Barkley has represented his state in Congress, first as a member of the House of Representatives and later as a member of the Senate. Before going to the House, he held a number of county offices in Kentucky, and he has been active at Democratic conventions, both state and national. Throughout his career, Barkley has followed party principles closely. Some observers have described him as being "as regular as a metronome" in politics.

Senator Barkley is known, also, for his devotion to the late Franklin Roosevelt. As early as 1920, he began to take an interest in Roosevelt, and, when the latter was elected President in 1932, Barkley stood squarely for the New Deal. He continued to support the President's policies—with only a few exceptions—through the 12 years Roosevelt was in office.

Barkley's ability and his loyalty to the party caused the Democrats to elect him majority leader of the Senate in 1937. When, after the election of 1946, the Republicans gained control of the Senate, Barkley served as leader of the Democratic minority. He has given President Truman the same loyal support which he once gave President Roosevelt.

Like Truman, Alben Barkley began life as a farm boy. While helping with the work on his family's tobacco farm in Kentucky, he attended the county schools. He completed his preparatory education and then went to Marvin College at Clinton, Kentucky. After earning his A.B. degree, he studied at Emory College in Georgia. He went to the University of Virginia for his law degree.

At the age of 71, Barkley is preparing for the greatest political struggle of his long career. He stands on his party's record of the past 16 years, a record he has done much to build.

Study Guide

Republicans and Democrats

1. To what extent have the Republican Party and the Democratic Party agreed, since the end of the war, on foreign policy?
2. On what points regarding our dealings with other countries has there been disagreement?
3. What is the attitude of each party toward the United Nations?
4. Discuss the stand of the Democrats and that of the Republicans on states' rights.
5. Which party have most business leaders generally favored? List some policies favorable to businessmen which that party has advocated.
6. Contrast President Truman's inflation-control proposals with those of the Republican leaders.
7. How do the two parties stand on the subject of labor legislation?
8. In general, which of the two large parties can be said to favor the greater amount of federal control over American social and economic life?

Discussion

1. Do you agree more nearly with the general policies of the Democrats, or with those of the Republicans? Give reasons for your answer.
2. On what points, if any, do you disagree with the party which, as a whole, you prefer? Explain your position.

Southeast Asia

1. List the principal countries or colonies of Southeast Asia.
2. For what products is Malaya important?
3. What are the two principal aims of the Communists in that land?
4. Tell of the dispute between France and Viet Nam.
5. In which part of Southeast Asia has the United Nations played an important peacemaking role?
6. What major political change occurred in Burma early this year?
7. What evidence is there that the Communists are planning a strong effort to build up their strength in Siam?
8. Describe conditions, prevalent in Southeast Asia, which are helpful to the Communists. How are the Communists seeking to take advantage of them?

Discussion

1. In which region, Europe or the Orient, do you think Communism presents a greater threat to us? Give reasons for your answer.
2. What do you think the United States should do to help promote security and prosperity in Southeast Asia?

Miscellaneous

1. Name five domestic issues with which Congress may deal in its special session.
2. What nation is the latest member of the European group scheduled to receive aid under the Marshall Plan?
3. How are boys in many towns and cities now helping law-enforcement agencies prevent crime?
4. What reports from Hungary indicate that the government there does not want its people to listen to the Voice of America broadcasts?
5. Name seven countries whose representatives are now holding important, secret talks in Washington.
6. What drastic step did the UN Security Council recently threaten in an attempt to end the Palestine fighting?
7. In what country has a far-reaching national health plan recently been put into effect?

Pronunciations

Celebes—sēl'uh-bēz
 Viet Nam—vē-ēt' nahm'
 Ho Chi Minh—haw' chē mīn'
 Thankin Nu—tahhn-kin nō
 Tage Erlander—tahg ūr-land'ūr
 Einar Gerhardsen—ā'nahr gēr'hård-sun
 Hans Hedtoft—hāns hēd-tawft'